

PATENT
930008-2053REMARKS

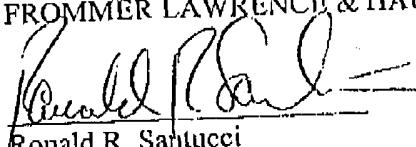
The Examiner and Applicants' attorney, Samuel H. Mcgerditchian, participated in a telephonic interview on February 6, 2004, to discuss the January 12, 2004 Office Action. During the interview, for which the Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended thereto, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the Office Action as being void *ab initio*.

Briefly, claims 5 and 6 are pending in this application by virtue of an Amendment filed on October 16, 2003. The January 12, 2004 Office Action alleged, however, that a December 23, 2003 Amendment cancelled all the claims drawn to the elected invention.

During the telephone interview, Applicants' attorney disagreed and explained that a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/914,584 was filed on December 23, 2004. A Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently therewith cancelled claims 5-7.

Applicants' Attorney posited that the January 12, 2004 Office Action was mailed under the mistaken assumption that the December 23, 2003 Amendment was directed to the instant application. The Examiner agreed and assured Applicants' attorney that the Office Action would be withdrawn accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,
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